



News Release

Arizona Department of Public Safety

POST OFFICE BOX 6638 * PHOENIX, ARIZONA 85005-6638

Date: August 17, 2007

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Direct Inquiries to: Bart Graves

Contact Information: Bgraves@azdps.gov

MISS ARIZONA 2007 TEAMS UP WITH THE ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY TO HELP FIGHT IMPAIRED DRIVING

Arizona Department of Public Safety Director Roger Vanderpool welcomed Nicole Turner, Miss Arizona 2007, to help the agency spread the message about the dangers of impaired driving and the importance of wearing safety belts.

Turner has been working on a program she created, T.D.W.C. – To Drive with Care. She joined the effort to educate the public about impaired driving after being personally affected by tragedy. Her friend, Aaron Mattison, was killed in an automobile collision because he was not wearing his safety belt and was impaired by alcohol.

In fact, Turner began entering beauty pageants in high school as a way to develop a platform to speak about safe driving and making positive decisions. After winning a number of pageants in the state, Turner won the title of Miss Arizona 2007 in June and will now move on to represent our state in the 2008 Miss America Pageant.

“My goal during my year of service as Miss Arizona is to collaborate with various organizations and people who truly make a difference in the state of Arizona, and the Arizona Department of Public Safety fits that description. My hope is that as Miss Arizona I can partner up with the various divisions of DPS and promote safe driving statewide,” said Turner.

“We are very pleased Miss Arizona 2007 chose to partner with the Arizona Department of Public Safety to get the message out about the dangers of impaired driving and not wearing safety belts. Nicole has a great passion in this area. DPS will utilize her help in increasing public awareness about dangerous driving habits through public service announcements, brochures, speaking engagements and through a number of events throughout the state,” said Director Vanderpool.